Production of foodgrains during the year 1985-86

1177. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the target of production of foodgrains fixed for the year 1985-86;

(b) whether the above target has been attained;

(c) what were the targets fixed for procurment of wheat and rice during the above period for distribution under the public distribution system;

(d) how much was actually procured; and

(e) what are hte targets fixed for the year 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The production target for foodgrains fixed for the year 1985-86 is 159.2 million tonnes and the anticipated achievement is in the range of 146.0 to 148.5 million tonnes.

(c) to (e) Since procurement of wheat and paddy are done under voluntary price support and rice under statutory levy, no targets for procurement of these grains are fixed. During the 1985-86 rabi marketing season (April, '85 to March '86) 103.45 lakh tonnes of wheat was procured. Procurement of rice in the 1985-86 kharif marketing season (October '85 to September '86) has been 91.28 lakhs tonnes till 1st May, 1986.

Evasion of taxes by Multinational drug companies

1178. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that multinational drug companies are avoiding tax by claiming huge amounts running into crores of rupees, under the head of drug prices equalisation accounts (O.P.E.A.); if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to check this malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Liability to contribute to Drug Prices Equalisation Accounts arises on account of Drug (Prices Control) order 1979 issued under the Essential Commodities Act. As the contribution to Drug Prices Equalisation Account is a statutory liability, question of any tax avoidance on this account does not arise.

राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता सहकारी संघ के माध्यम से विदेशी माल की बिक्री

1179. **श्री सुशील चन्द मोहन्ता :**
श्री हुक्मदेव नारायण यादव :
श्री राम नरेश कुशवाहा :

क्या खाद्य और नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता सहकारी संघ के माध्यम से विदेशी माल की बिक्री की जाती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान इस संघठन को कितने मूल्य का माल बेचने के लिए दिया गया और संगठन ने उससे कितना लाभ अर्जित किया; और

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान संगठन ने अपने अधिकारियों को यात्रा भत्ता, विश्राम भत्ता तथा अन्य भत्तों के रूप में कितनी राशि का भुगतान किया ?

योजना मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री तथा खाद्य और नागरिक पूर्ति राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजीत पांजा) : (क) जी हां । सीमा शुल्क प्राधिकारियों द्वारा जब्त की गई विदेशी वस्तुएं राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता सहकारी संघ के माध्यम से बेची जाती है ।

(ख) राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता सहकारी संघ द्वारा दी गई सूचना के अनुसार, पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान सीमा शुल्क विभाग

द्वारा जब्त की गई विदेशी वस्तुओं की अधि प्राप्ति/बिक्री तथा सकल लाभ निम्नवत था:—

(लाख रु० में)

वर्ष	उठाई गई वस्तुएं	बेची गई वस्तुएं	सकल लाभ
1982-83	787.74	829.62	48.83
1983-84	1357.61	1386.47	74.95
1984-85	1814.20	1985.31	130.39

(ग) राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता सहकारी संघ द्वारा दी गई सूचना के अनुसार, पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान यात्रा भत्ते/महंगाई भत्ते तथा सवारी भत्ते पर व्यय की गई राशि निम्नवत थी :—

(लाख रु. में)

वर्ष	व्यय
1982-83	22.03
1983-84	27.46
1984-85	23.06

Subjects discussed at the IMF meeting

1180. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) what were the subjects discussed at the recent meeting of the International Monetary Fund at Washington;

(b) what was the outcome thereof;

(c) Whether any proposals for reduction of protectionist barriers and interest rates for borrowings were made by India at that meeting; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of the developed nations to those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Interim Committee of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund at its meeting held in Washington D.C. on April 9-10, 1986, deliberated on world economic outlook; debt situation and strategy; questions of allocation of SDRs and issues relating to functioning of the Exchange Rate System, Fund surveillance, management of international liquidity and the role of SDRs dealt with in the Reports by the Group of 10 and Group of 24 on the International Monetary System.

The conclusion reached at the meeting are set out in the form of Press Communique which is enclosed.

[See Appendix CXXXVIII Annexure No. 32]

(c) India emphasised, *Inter-alia*, the need for improvement in the international environment more particularly in the areas of further reduction of real interest rates and reduction of protectionism.

(d) The Interim Committee emphasised the importance of sound policy for industrial countries for the successful implementation of the debt strategy. It noted that it was important for these countries to maintain open markets, liberlise trade and pursue polices aimed at increasing growth, reducing exchange rate instability and, in particular, further lowering interest rates.